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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: James C. Chen et al. Attorney Docket No: CHEN0175
Serial No: 09/910,364 Group Art Unit: 2834
Filed: July 20, 2001 Examiner: Mullins, Burton S.
Title: CONTACTLESS ENERGY TRANSFER APPARATUS
ELECTION IN RESPONSE TO A RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Bellevue, Washington 98004

October 16, 2002

TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE:

The following is in response to a Restriction Requirement Office Action mailed September 20, 2002, in which the Examiner indicated that the above-identified patent application is subject to a restriction. The Examiner states that this application contains claims directed to two groups of patentably distinct inventions. He notes that Claims 1-15, drawn to Invention I, are related to a contactless energy transfer apparatus, classified in Class 310, subclass 171, while Claims 21-55 are directed to Invention II and are drawn to a contactless battery charger, classified in Class 320, subclass 107.

The Examiner has indicated that the inventions are distinct because they are separately usable. The Examiner notes the inventions are related as sub-combinations, which have been disclosed as being usable together in a single combination. Such sub-combinations can be shown to be distinct if they are separately usable. The Examiner states that in the instant case, Invention II includes a conditioning circuit that is suitable for charging a battery and thus concludes Invention II has a separate utility.

In response to this Restriction, applicants hereby affirmatively elect Invention I, as defined in Claims 1-15. This election is made subject to applicants' right to file a divisional application directed to the non-elected claims during the pendency of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid addressed to: Director of Patents and Trademarks, Arlington, VA 22202, on October 16, 2002.

Date: October 16, 2002
RMA/MCK: